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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/685,829

10/14/2003

Po-Hsuan Wu

5272

25859

7590

01/04/2008

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EXAMINER

REFAI, RAMSEY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/04/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/685,829

Applicant(s)

WU, PO-HSUAN

Examiner

RAMSEY REFAI

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/55/CE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/14/03, 08/02/06, 11/01/06
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Responsive to claims filed October 14, 2003. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10/14/03, 08/02/06, NS 11/01/06 are being considered by the examiner.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Smith et al (US 6,879,962).
5. As per claim 1, Smith et al teach an export file management system for generating export files based on basic export data obtained from a plurality of manufacturing databases, and for automatically sending shipping advices to corresponding consignees of cargoes by e-mail, the system comprising:

a plurality of manufacturing workstations; a database server comprising a database; an application server (column 2, lines 5-27, fig 3, column 23, lines 29-37) comprising:

a basic data module for obtaining basic export data by accessing the manufacturing workstations, and for storing said obtained basic export data in the database (column 2, lines 20-27)

a tracking module for obtaining information on cargo tracking and abnormality messages sent by forwarders via corresponding client computers (column 3, lines 15-39, column 23, lines 37-45);

an export file management module for obtaining required data from the database; and for generating export files, address lists, cargo tracking records, and shipping advices based on said required data (column 1, lines 22-28); and

a communication module for receiving shipping advices, obtaining information on consignees of cargoes by accessing corresponding address lists in the database, and for sending the shipping advices to the consignees according to said obtained information on consignees; and a network connecting the manufacturing workstations and the application server (column 3, lines 15-39, column 23, lines 32-45, column 24, lines 15-19).

6. As per claim 2, Smith et al teach wherein the database is used for storing information on cargoes, information on forwarders, address lists, export files, and cargo tracking records (column 3, lines 20-28).

7. As per claim 3, Smith et al teach wherein each of the manufacturing workstations comprises:

a manufacturing database server comprising a manufacturing database for storing the basic export data (column 2, lines 12-18); and

a manufacturing application server comprising an authorization management module for defining operational rights and a scope of access for each user of the manufacturing workstation (column 22, lines 37-42).

8. As per claim 4, Smith et al teach wherein for each of the cargo, the export files comprise a packing list, a pro forma invoice, and a bill of lading (column 1, lines 22-27, column 3, lines 19-22, column 14, lines 6-11).

9. As per claim 5, Smith et al teach wherein the information on cargo tracking comprises an actual arrival time and an actual departure time for each port through which a cargo has passed, a system status, a shipping status and a current position of the cargo (column 1, lines 22-57, column 3, lines 19-22).

10. As per claim 6, Smith et al teach wherein the required data comprises basic export data, information on a cargo, a shipping path, an invoice number, an arrival time at a destination port, and a flight or voyage number (column 1, lines 22-27, column 3, lines 19-22, column 14, lines 6-11).

11. As per claim 7, Smith et al teach wherein the export file management module is used for accessing the database on a predetermined schedule to obtain cargo tracking records and basic export data, and for generating reports based on said obtained tracking records and basic export data (column 2, lines 15-18).

12. As per claim 8, Smith et al teach wherein on each occasion of said accessing, the reports comprise an on way tracking report for describing information on delivery between original ports and respective destination ports, an abnormality report comprising information on any delayed cargoes, and a booking status report for showing booking statuses of orders (column 3, lines 15-39, column 23, lines 37-45).

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13. As per claim 9, Smith et al teach wherein the address lists are used for recording recipients of reports and the consignee of cargoes (**column 1, lines 22-30, column 3, lines 19-22, column 14, lines 6-11**).
14. As per claim 10, Smith et al teach wherein each of the shipping advices is used for informing a corresponding consignee of up-to-date details of a cargo once after the cargo is delivered to the consignee, and comprises an invoice number, basic information on the cargo, information on forwarders, a shipping path, an arrival time at the destination port, and a flight or voyage number (**column 2, lines 7-26, column 3, lines 15-37, column 1, lines 22-30**).
15. As per claim 11, Smith et al teach wherein generated export files are attached to each of the shipping advices (**column 2, lines 7-26, column 3, lines 15-37, column 1, lines 22-30**).
16. As per claim 12, Smith et al teach the export file management module is further used for sending the reports and the shipping advices to the communication module (**abstract**).
17. As per claim 13, Smith et al teach wherein the communication module is used for receiving reports sent by the export file management module, obtaining information on recipients of the reports, and sending the reports according to said information on recipients (**abstract, column 2, lines 7-26, column 3, lines 15-37, column 1, lines 22-30**).
18. As per claims, 14, Smith et al teach wherein the application server further comprises a time control module for setting a first time parameter, a second time parameter and a third time parameter, wherein: the first time parameter defines times at which the basic data module accesses the manufacturing databases of the manufacturing workstations; the second time parameter defines times at which the export file management module accesses the database to generate series of export files; and the third time parameter defines times at which the communication module sends the reports (**column 2, lines 17-19, column 12, lines 34-36, column 16, lines 9-16, .**

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19. As per claims 15-20, these claims contain similar limitations as claims above, therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon, which is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure, are cited in the Notice of Reference Cited form (PTO-892).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAMSEY REFAI whose telephone number is (571)272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ramsey Refai
December 13, 2007
/R. R. /
Examiner, Art Unit 3627

/F. Ryan Zeender/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3627